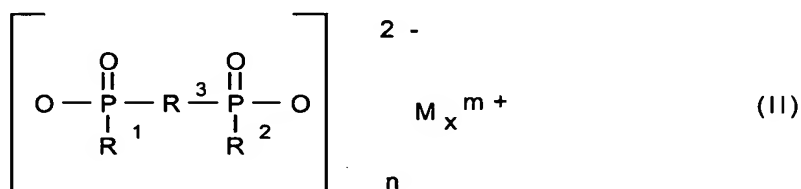
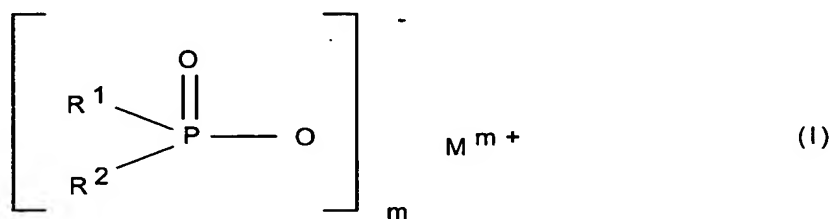


Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A flame retardant-nanofiller combination for a thermoplastic polymers, which comprises polymer comprising, as component A, a phosphinic salt of the formula (I), ~~and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these~~ a polymer of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I), a polymer of a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) or mixtures thereof,



where

R¹, R² are identical or different and are C₁-C₆-alkyl, linear or branched, ~~and/or~~ or aryl;

R³ is C₁-C₁₀-alkylene, linear or branched, C₆-C₁₀-arylene, -alkylarylene or -arylalkylene;

M is Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi ~~and/or~~ or Mn;

m is 1 to 4;

n is 1 to 4;

x is 1 to 4,

~~and comprises, as~~ at least one of component B and component C, wherein
component B, is selected from the group consisting of condensation products of
melamine, ~~and/or~~ reaction products of melamine with phosphoric acid or
polyphosphoric acid, ~~and/or comprises~~ reaction products of condensation products
of melamine with phosphoric acid or polyphosphoric acid, ~~and/or comprises a~~
~~mixture of these, and/or comprises, as~~ and mixtures thereof, wherein component C,
is selected from the group consisting of organic intercalated phyllosilicates, a
nanospherical oxides, ~~or~~ and carbon nanotubes.

2. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in
claim 1, wherein R¹ and R² are identical or different and are C₁-C₆-alkyl, linear or
branched, ~~and/or~~ phenyl.

3. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in
claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein R¹ and R² are identical or different and are methyl, ethyl, n-
propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl ~~and/or~~ phenyl.

4. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in
~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein R³ is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene,
isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene, ~~or~~ n-dodecylene;
phenylene, ~~or~~ naphthylene; methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene,
methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene, ~~or~~ tert-butyl naphthylene; phenylmethylene,
phenylethylene, phenylpropylene, or phenylbutylene.

5. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in
~~one or more of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein M is calcium ions, aluminum ions, or
zinc ions.

6. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in
~~one or more of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein component B ~~comprises~~ is the
condensation products of melamine.

7. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 6~~claim 6, wherein the condensation products of melamine ~~comprise~~are selected from the group consisting of melem, melam, melon and/or compounds thereof having higher condensation levels.

8. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, wherein component B ~~comprises~~is the reaction products of melamine with polyphosphoric acid, and/or comprises the reaction products of condensation products of melamine with polyphosphoric acid, or comprises a mixture thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 8~~claim 1, wherein ~~the reaction products comprise~~component B is selected from the group consisting of dimelamine pyrophosphate, melamine polyphosphate, melem polyphosphate, melam polyphosphate, melon polyphosphate, ~~and/or mixed polysalts of this type thereof and mixtures thereof.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 9~~claim 1, wherein component B comprises melamine polyphosphate.

11. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 10~~claim 1, wherein the organic intercalated phyllosilicates comprise materials for which the starting materials are swellable smectites, ~~such as montmorillonite, hectorite, saponite, or beidellite.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 10~~claim 1, wherein the organic intercalated phyllosilicates have been intercalated using quaternary ammonium compounds, protonated

amines, organic phosphonium ions, ~~and/or~~ aminocarboxylic acids, and mixtures thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant ~~plastics-plastic~~ molding composition ~~which comprises~~comprising a flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 12~~claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics-plastic~~ molding composition as claimed in claim 13, wherein the plastic ~~comprises~~is a thermoplastic polymers of the type represented by polymer selected from the group consisting of HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, and blends or polyblends of the type represented by ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), ~~or~~ PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PPE/HIPS (polyphenylene ether/HI polystyrene) plastics.

15. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics-plastic~~ molding composition as claimed in claim 13 ~~or~~ 14, wherein the plastic ~~comprises~~is selected from the group consisting of polyamides, polyesters and PPE/HIPS blends.

16. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics-plastic~~ molding composition as claimed in one or more of claims 13 ~~to 15~~, wherein ~~the amount used of~~ component A is present from 2 to 20% by weight, ~~the amount used of~~ component B ~~is~~ from 1 to 30% by weight, and ~~the amount used of~~ component C ~~is~~ from 0.05 to 20% by weight, based on the ~~plastics-plastic~~ molding composition.

17. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics-plastic~~ molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 13 to 16~~claim 13, wherein ~~the amount used of~~ component A is present from 5 to 10% by weight, ~~the amount used of~~ component B ~~is~~ from 5 to 10% by weight, and ~~the amount used of~~ component C ~~is~~ from 0.05 to 10% by weight, based on the ~~plastics-plastic~~ molding composition.

18. (Currently Amended) The flame-retardant ~~plastics-plastic~~ molding composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 13 to 15~~claim 13, wherein the amount used of component A is present from 2 to 20% by weight and the amount used of component C is from 0.05 to 5% by weight, based on the ~~plastics-plastic~~ molding composition.

19. (Currently Amended) A ~~polymeric article comprising polymer molding, a polymer film, a polymer filament, or a polymer fiber~~ which comprises a flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in ~~one or more claims 1 to 12~~claim 1, wherein the polymeric article is selected from the group consisting of a polymer molding, film, filament and fiber.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~polymeric article as claimed in claim 19, wherein the polymer comprises HI (high-impact) polystyrene, polyphenylene ethers, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, and blends or polyblends of the type represented by ABS (acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene), or PC/ABS (polycarbonate/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene).

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~polymeric article as claimed in claim 19 ~~or 20~~, wherein the amount of component A is present ~~is from 2 to 20% by weight, the amount of component B present is from 1 to 30% by weight, and the amount of component C present is from 0.5 to 20% by weight,~~ based on the polymer content.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~polymeric article as claimed in claim 19 ~~or 20~~, wherein the amount of component A is present ~~is from 5 to 10% by weight, the amount of component B present is from 5 to 10% by weight, and the amount of component C present is from 0.5 to 10% by weight,~~ based on the polymer content.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~polymer molding, polymer film, polymer filament, or polymer fiber~~polymeric article as claimed in claim 19 ~~or 20~~, wherein the amount of component A is present is from 2 to 20% by weight and the amount of component C ~~present is~~ from 0.5 to 5% by weight, based on the polymer content.

24. (New) The flame retardant-nanofiller combination as claimed in claim 11, wherein the swellable smectites are selected from the group consisting of montmorillonite, hectorite, saponite or beidellite.